THE HOLIDAY SEASON.

Christmas and New Year's Presents.

"THESE ARE OUR JEWELS."

A Ramble in the Great Diamond Houses.

Statuary and Bronzes, Clocks, Watches and Articles of Virtu.

THE GREAT GIFT DAY.

One of the most prominent characteristics of Christmas is the good old custom of making gifts between friends. What would "the holidays" be out their holday presents? Whether they be costly or cheap-whether it is the purse of the milpaire or the small savings of the artisan that are drawn upon for the purchase—these Christmas pre-sents are equally beautiful and sacred. How many bright young eyes look up with beams of intensified love into the father's face on Christmas morning when the little gift is presented! How many a wife presses to her heart the simplest token of a husband's love, or the jewel almost above price! No matter which, it is equally valuable and endeared to her, as the symbol of an honest affection, which has kept its torch burning along the path that leads back for many a year, which memory follows now to the bridal and the honeymoon. And is there not a most tender emotion stirred when the maiden accepts, with blushing happiness, the Christmas gift, which perhaps is only the delicate prototype of the greater gift, throbbingly hoped for—the loving donor himself! In this case memory is not retrospect. Indeed, it is not memory, but prophecy, that warms the maiden's heart and makes her beautiful eye glisten.

And thus, with rich and poor—the youthful and the old—in households where tawdry splendor often mocks the gental soul of hospitality, and in the humblest home, where honest virtue sanctifies the poor man's fireside, these Christmas gifts come like the presence of angels, bearing blessings on

WHENCE COMES THIS CUSTOM of Christmas gitts? It is doubtless the instinctive impulse which grew out of the first great Christmas festival, when God gave to man the most precious of all gitts, His only Son, to become the preacher of a divine philosophy and the martyr of an eternal faith. The first act of man, in order to show his devotion to that helpless infancy of Divine humanity nestling in the manger at Bethlehem, was to offer gifts, rich gifts from the East, proffered by the hands of kings, with tokens of love and gratifiede. These offerings of gold, frankincense and myrrh were the first Christinas gifts. They were laid by men at the feet of the mysterious God, and so from that day to this, between man and man, these tokens of friendship and love annually pass on every beautiful Christmas festival. Christmas day, therefore, is essent ally the day of gifts. The young welcome it with childish giee and throbbing expec tation; neither do the old despise it. In age as in youth the heart is open to the most delicate touches of affection.

As for the beautiful legend of

that has gone up to the top story of the householdaway up to the regions of the nufrsery. A lovely eit it is for venders of toys; a witching delusion, too, for the young believers in the aucient fur coaten Dutchman-neophytes as they are in the world's mysteries -- who hear in their dreams the tramp of the reindeer and the jingle of the bells, and the voice of encouragement.

Now Dasher! now Dancer! now Prancer! now Vigen! On, Comet! on, Cupid! on, Dunder and Blixen! But we lear that "Young America" is becoming sceptical about this delicious myth, and that many a stocking is hung up on Christmas eve with a sly wink from each urchin who is beginning to detect that it is the generous hands of those who provide all other domestic comforts and pleasures which fill the stocking with all its glittering toys, and not the

old spowiaden traveller, with his traditionary beard, hairy cap and well filled pouch, who comes down However, Santa Claus in the nursery is the hero of

the brightest chapter in the life of man. In the without, singing weird songs through the skeleton trees, he comes in a glow of sunshine u on the sleep of youthful innocence-a sunshine that leaves a thousand sweet remembrances behind, which expand far beyond the limits of the nursery, and perhaps brighten the future years of the man with the recollection of scenes and hours when to believe in Santa Claus was not so bad after all-when he may come to think that it was happier to be innocent and credulous than to be steeped in the intrigues of life and to have become a practical unbeliever in everything in which the heart claims mastery ever the brain. Santa Claus and his associations, there fore, may last for another generation at least. By that time our little ones, if we may judge from the present current of progress, may be like full-armed Minervas, paneplied with knowledge and wisdem at their very birth. And when that comes to pass farewell to the reign of Santa Claus and all the happy deussions belonging to the legend which charmed our grundmothers and granufathers in their unsornistocated chiidnood.

But we are straying from our gift land. We started

with the intention of showing where the most beam-tion Carismas gifts can be had, as far as taste and fancy lead us. Obedient to the beck of Beauty's fairy wand we seek

The fretted splendor of each nook and niche.

The fretted splendor of each book and niche, where the exquisite fligree of art in sparkling gems wrought into elegant forms first lavites us. "In short"—as Micawber would say—we go to "THYANY'S, the Alhambra of Union square. Here one's eyes are dazzled with the array of Jewels in every shape that glitter in the form of rings, bracelets, necklaces, brooches, carrings, and the magnificent full sets of pearl, and coral, emerald, sapphire and diamonds of the finest lustre. Who can measure the cost, or who can describe the variety in these long crystal cases which line the store? The value may be counted by millions; the variety can only be measured by the infinite skill of the designer and the artificer. The superb stock of DIAMONDS first attracts the visitor. They are around in every form of delicate workmanship, all executed, too, as, indeed, are nearly all the articles in the collection, by Thinany's own workmen. The most gorgeous ornaments are the full diamond sets, one of which, containing necklace, earrings, brooch and bracelet, is valued at

THIRTY-SEVEN THOUSAND DOLLARS.

Of course there are sets of inted less price, running as low as \$2,000- the variety of brooches, pins, rings, charms, carrings and other ornaments, imparting to the diamond case the dazzling brilliancy of a

CONSTELLATION OF SUNS.

More modest, though hardly less expensive, are the ornaments of pearl. The stock of these is exceedingly beautiful and varied in design, There is one magnificent set, consisting of brooch and earrings of the purest pearls, set in brilliants. A single string of pearls, the most perfect that ever a Ceylon diver brought up from the depths of the Indian Ocean, is valued at \$12,000—a costly ornament for some fair throat, but one that an empress might wear and feel proud. Most of these pearls sets are meant for

ERIDAL OBNAMENTS,
but many of them are got up for that specialty. There are only two prerequisites to render the rarest of these lewels available—the mency to pay for them and the bride to wear them. No doubt some purchaser will come along one of these days to whom fortune has given both requisites—

BRATUS VIR!

Next to the diamonds and pearls in brilliancy is the silverware, of which there is a glittering steck. One dinner set, conspicuous above all, is remarkable for the beauty of its design and the fine finish of the chasings. It stands supreme among all the other dinner and breakfast sets, and can be laid on any gentleman's table for the moderate sum of \$30,000. Looking around this branch of the establishment, we are disposed to think that there is nothing finer in the line of silverware in he world as regards superior workmanship than that which surrounds us. We feel a title proud also to know that they are all of

HOME MANUFACTURE.

Among the large collection of water pitchers made of oxydized silver we find classic designs, mostly of eclecia styles, which are worked out by our real-dent artisans, in the workshops of this establishment, with as chaste any delicate a finule as any-

rare specimen of a large library set in SOLID MALACHITE, valued at \$675, which seems to us, who are not skilled in gems and precious stones, a price not too high for so truly beautiful an ornament, so exquisticly wrought. Almost every table or stand has its

sitely wronght. Almost every table or stand has its groups of

BRONZES,
and many of them are of tare beauty. For example, there is a group of Penelope and Telemachus, full of the most lender sentiment. The mother leans upon the shoulder of her boy. The pensive face and downeast eye of Penelope reveal the story of great sorrow hadden away in the breast of the mother, There is a cloud of sadness upon the face of the boy, as if he snared the gnot for his absent lather. Another group, full of force, is the parting of Hecter and Andromache, which, if it are for the exquisite forms of the drapery alone, would be a masterpleca. The Trojan wife clings passionately to the great chieftain, hangs upon his importing him not to leave the city and put his life at the mercy of the Greeks outside the walls. The story belongs to the last fatal days of limm, beloved of the gods. There is immense vigor in the figure of Hector, as he struggles to disengage himself from the emiraces of Andromache and with brancished sword is hastening to the conflict. We can almost hear him answering to the renion-strance of his wife in the translated words of Home:—

Where herees war the foremost place I claim,

with branchshed sword is hastening to the coinflot. We can almost hear him answering to the reministrance of his wife in the translated words of Homer:

Where before war the foremost place I claim,
The first in danger sathe first in fame.

The "rancing Girl," by Glessin, of Paris, an exquisite figure, as voluptuous as Hardee; a "facchante Overcome with Wine." and many others, which we cannot new swell upps, are all exquisite specimens of the finest class of bronzes.

In aluding to the diamones we forgot to mention one solitaire pla. The cutting of the diamond, which is about the size of the tip of a lady's inger, is most remarkable. Its value is \$10,000. It is indeed a superb stone, almost toe beautini, but, of course, not at all too dear to decorate the shirt bosom of a Mannatan Polatician.

Yet who knows but it may one lay shine upon the trenst of some lucky wight in and about the City Hall? We hope not; but stranger things have happened in that vicinity.

Watches and clocks in great profusion are here. Watches of Tifany's own make, from the miniature timekeeper, not larger than a three cent plees, to the best articles in gold hum ing cases. Clocks there are, too, of perphyry and manachite and ony x; clocks of modern and annue patterns, incinding the pink and gilded beauties of the time of Leuis Quatorze. In short, the eve weaters from contemplating this wast hail, the repository of so much splendor in art and so much wealth in the rarest products of the mine and the ocean.

A similar scene awaits the visitor at Ball, black & Co.'s.

He cannot escape the fascination. The magnificence of everything around into, the dazzling array of brilliants set in every form known to art and applicable to every purpose, nursed and cultivated by fastion, suggests the words of Slakspeare in the "Two Gentlemen of Verona".

You can be a superbound the pattern of the

points to the listory of the early life of each. For instance:—The boy Washington leans upon his axe, reating from his labors at woodcutting in the forest; Napoleon, in the stadent cestume of Brienne, is absorbed in calculating some mathematical problem; Tell, noiding a bow in his band, is looking up towards the mountains—up towards the aspirations which in the fature of his manhood made his name immortal and made Switzerland rec. The boy Franklin has his whistle under his arm, looking quite pensive at the idea that he has paid too much to rit—a paillose-pher even in boyhood. The expression of character in these figures is admirably preserved. Each tells its own prophetic story. There are many other excellent works, the "Veited Bust," for example, and a lew smaller groups of considerable ment. In articles of vertu we are struck with a magnificent vase of

vase of

PURE ONYN,
a really superb specimen, relying for its merits, perhaps, more upon the value of the material than the elaboration of the workmanship. Again, here is a clock of solid malachite, and a table set for the dressing room to match, worth \$1,000. And this but one example of this style of article, of which there is a profusion.

but one example of this sale of the there is a profusion.

DIAMONDS AND PEARLS,
if not the specialty of this establishment, certainly claim a first place in the grand display at this holiday season. One gem attracts the eye at once. It is a set—brooch, with pendants, and earrings—all composed of pearls thickly set and surrounded by

SIXTY DIAMONDS

of various sizes.

No pearl ever lay under Oman's green water No pearl ever lay under Oman's green water more pure than this one.

The price, of course, is commensurate with its purity. Pearls of this size and quanty are very rare. They are, consequently, highly prized and cagerly sought after. One case in this house is exciusively devotes to tridal ornaments, all of purest pearl, typical of the parity they are intended to adorn. Some of them are of such exquisite quality and so costly withal that one feels almost disposed to ask with young Claudic, in his impassioned admiration for Beatrice,

Can the world buy such a jewel?

It is hardly necessary to dwell upon the rich col-

Can the world buy such a jewel?

It is hardly necessary to dwell upon the rich collection of silverware and watches for which the house of Ball, Black & Co, is so famous. As manufacturers of these articles they have scarcely any rivals in this country or in Europe.

There are, of course, other stores at which a great variety of heliasy articles, such as we have been describing, can be had; but we have dwelt upon the two great emporiums, as fair illustrations of what the metropolis can do in the manufacture of the most costly and exquisite works of art in Gollo, Silver And Jeweils.

A ramble through these jewelled halls is like a dream of the realms of fairy land, recalling incidents in those famous tales of Scheherszade, by the

tents in those famous tales of Scheherazade, by the recital of which she helped to shorten the nights of the Sultan Schahrlar, and thereby lengthened her

GEVERAL NEWS PRESES.

In Sonora there is a premium of \$300 for Indian A monument to General Winfield Scott is to be erected in Richmond.

The salary of the Mayor of Harrisburg 19 \$500. The perquisites are from \$3,000 to \$4,000.

There are 200 convicts making cigars at the Penitentiary of Hilmois. They make about 290,000 weekly. The new Masonic Temple at the corner of Maisted and Randolph streets, Chicago, is nearly completed. Application has been granted to Messrs. King, urner & Co. for a new national bank in Lewistown,

llinois.

There is toe enough in some of the rivers in northern New England to impede the passage of

erryboats.

Haif fare tickets to and from church, bath Sun lays and week days, is a feature of the street rail

way in the West.

Harry Meech for many years manager of the old
Albany Museum, whose insanity was announced
some weeks since, is dead.

Major J. McClellan Miller, of Mount Morris, Ill.,
formerly a major in the Forty-fourin regiment litinois volunteers, committed suicide by snooting
himself through the head a few days ago.

nimself through the head a few days ago.

Two muscular young women of San Francisco have had a waiking match for \$500. After getting over sixty miles one gave out, when the other waiked an hour longer and then claimed the purse.

During the month of November the letter carriers in Chicago were occupied as follows:—Mail letters delivered, 222,191; city letters delivered, 122,094; Mewspapers delivered, 182,350; letters collected, 819,342; paper collected, 71,922.

Mr. Thomas J. Vanghan, a well known this

Mr. Thomas J. Vanghan, a well known ship builder, dieu in Philadeiphia on Sunday, in the sixty-inird year of his age. He had a wide reputation, at home and abroad, as a naval constructor, and contributed not a little to the lame of Philadeiphia in that respect.

Thousands of men in the lake cities will be out of employment during the water manufactor, the

employment during the whater menths for the want of some supplementary trade or calling to which they might turn their hands. The bulk of these men are from those who have been on the lakes during the season of navigation.

It is again asserted that the Atlantic and Great Western Railway Company is to be reorganized and run separately from the New York and Erie road; that it is to be placed in the hands of a board of trustees, consisting of senator Thurman, of Ohlo; William Stewart Duncan, of New York, and General McCleilan.

McCleilan.

The heaviest verdict ever given in Iowa in a breach of promise suit was that given at Waverly, in the suit of Isabelia A. Smith against J. T. Campbell. The damages were lard at \$20,000 and the jury found for \$18,000. This was the result of an attempt on the part of the defendant to destroy the character of the last.

FLEETWOOD PARK.

ANOTHER DISHONEST RACE.

Five Heats Trotted-The Bets Declared Off, and John Martin, the Driver of one of the Horses, Ruled Off the Track-Two Other Trots Commenced, but Not Finished.

An honest trot newadays is a rarity. Nearly ver, one that has been gotten up for the last month has been arranged by the parties engaged for fraudulent purposes. The best horse in a majority of cases has lost, and gentlemen who have laid their money on their judgement have generally been losers. Yesterday afternoon another fraud was attempted at the Fleetwood Park, but the Superintendent of the grounds, Mr. Taliman, was the judge, and the culprit got his desserts. He watched carefully the manœuvres of the driver of the fastest horse in the race and at the end of it declared all bets off, and ruled John Martin, the driver, off the course for-ever. This, probably, will have the effect of putting a stop, at least for the season, to similar attempts at imposition, and may have a tendency in the future of deterring the scamps who have been injuring the trotting turf the past season from concecting their villatious practices here-after. The trot was advertised as a purse and stake of \$250, mile neats, best three in five, between John Lovett's bay mare Lady Ross, to wagou; M. Bellinger's bay gelding hiram, in harness, and John Martin's brown gelding Johnny Reb, to wagon. Lady Ross was the favorite before the at large odds in the outside betting. Johnny Reb won the first heat in 2:37, and the second heat in the easiest possible manner in 2:38%, and it seemed that he could not lose the race if allowed to trot The mare continued the favorite after the first heat at long odds; and after Jehnny Reb had won the second heat to the surprise of all, except a favored few, she was still a ter faverite than ever, selling in a pool for \$105, while Johany Reb and Hiram together fetched but tion that went around among the unsophistica and some queer remarks were beard, such as "A get out at any price," and many others of similar purport. The third heat was started, and Martin at showed his hand by breaking the horse up and failing far in the rear, where he lay the greater part of the heat, judge at the distance stand, and so he came in second, twenty lengths behind. The crowd shouted to the judges to take him out of the wagon and put in another driver; but Martin told so plausible a story about the horse pulling him so, and ms not being able to take him up when he broke, that the horse fer another heat. The same game was played in that heat, when the judge decided to remove him. Martin, however, would not allow any other driver to handle the horse, and, after wilfully losing the fifth heat, the judge decilared allotts off, and ruled Martin off the track forever. The sentence of the judge should have been even stronger than it was. He should have been even stronger than it was. He should have also ruled the horse off the track, as his only value as a trotter is on the track, and not as a road horse, This would have touctued the peckets of Martin, which seem to be the only depository of his sensibilities; and it might have had the effect of impressing on his mind that honesty would be the best policy in the future. to the judges to take him out of the wagon and pu

This would have touched the peckets of Martin, which seem to be the only depository of his sensibilities; and it might have had the effect of impressing on his mind that honesty would be the best poincy in the future.

Two other trots were started in the afternoon, and were sandwiched in with the main race; but after three heats had been trotted of each they were postponed until Moniay. The following are the details of the trotting swingle, with summaries of the other races as far as they progressed:—

THE PIRST THOT.

First Heat.—Hiram won the pose, Johnny Reb the second place, and Lady Ross the outside. The latter was a great favorite over the field. Lady Ross had the best of the send-off, Hiram second, Johnny Reb one length behind. Going around the turn Lady Ross the one length behind. At the quarter pole Lady Ross led one length, Johnny Reb second, six lengths ahead of Hiram, the latter having broken up on his way thither. Johnny Reb broke on the lewer turn, and Lady Ross led four lengths to the half-mile pole in 116. On the backstreth Johnny Reb closed gallantly and at the three-quarter pole showed his head in front, Lady Ross second, six lengths in front of Hiram. Johnny Reb and Lady Ross came into the homestreen together, and, after a sine struggle, Johnny Reb and Lady Ross came into the homestreeth together, and, after a sine struggle, Johnny Reb and Lady Ross was still the favorite over the field at odds. The Lady and Johnny Reb got away together, half a length in front of Hiram, and going around the turn the mare and Johnny Reb then broke up, but eatching his trot quickly was at the nead of the mare as sine passed the quarter pole in thirty-seven and a half second, Heat,—Lady Ross let her feet, and Johnny Reb then broke up, but eatching his trot quickly was at the nead of the mare as sine passed the three countries pole in the lady Ross skint up a hitte of the daylight, and Johnny Reb came nome an easy winner of the heat by six lengths, in 238 %, Hiram second, two lengths ahead of Lady Ross.

That Hea

Fourth Heat. - Lady Ross was now the favorite at

done.

Pourth Heat.—Lady Ross was now the favorite at five to one over the field. She had the best of the start, Hiram second, Johnny Reb third. At the quarter pole, which was passed in thirty-eight seconds, Lady Ross led six lengths, Hiram second, one length ahead of Johnny Reb. On the lower turn Lady Ross opened the gap to ten lengths, and was that far ahead at the half-mile pole la 1:10 ½. She increased the gap to tweive lengths on the backstretch, and came home an easy winner by eight lengths in 2:40, Johnny Reb second, four lengths in front of Hiram.

Fifth Heat.—The driver of Johnny Reb was now told by the judge that some other man might take his place beaind the hore, but this Mr. Martin objected to. He finally said that Dan Mace might drive the horse, but no other man, knowing full well at the time that Dan Mace was not on the ground. The horees were then called up and the word given, Lady Ross were then called up and the word given, Lady Ross were then called up and the word given, Lady Ross is the lead, closely followed by Johnny Reb, Hiram third. The latter soon broke up and fell far in the rear. At the quarter pole, which was pussed in thirty-eight and a half seconds, Lady Ross led three lengths, Johnny Reb second, eight lengths in front of Hiram. Going around the lower turn Lady Ross opened the gap and was four lengths in front of Hiram. Going around the lower turn Lady Ross opened the gap and was four lengths in front of Hiram. Going pite backstretch and a half behind. He trotted finely into the home stretch, and at the drawgate was lapsed on the mare; but he was gaining too fast to suit the driver and he was pulled to a break. Having mare; but he was gaining too fast to suit the driver and he was pulled to a break. Having now fallen back far enough to make the heat sure for the mare Martin gave the horse his head, and he came after her at such a rapid pace that he and no came after her at such a rapid pace that he was on her wheel as she crossed the score. Had the reins broken at the drawgate Johnny Reb could not have jost the heat. The judge, Mr. Tallman, then declared that Lady Ross had won the race; but that all bets were of, and Mr. Martin ruled off the track forever. This announcement was halled with shours of appliause by all except those who noped to win by the traud. The time of the heat was 2:40%. The following is a

following is a

SUMMARY:—

FLEETWOOD PARE, Loc. 10.—Purse and stake \$250; mile heats, best three in five.

John Lavett entered b. m. Lady Ross,

homas Trimble entered ch. g. Honest Tom....ohn Frick entered s. g. Sorrei Jake..... Time. Quarter. Half.

First heat. 46% 1:28%
Second heat. 40 1:22
Third heat. 1:22

SAME DAY.—Sweepstakes \$100; mile heats, best bree in five. V. McRoberts entered g. g. Young Mac, to

4 4dis.

MUSICAL REVIEW.

Ernst Reinking, Sixth street, publishes "Vespers," by Mark Hailam, a work of an unpretending standard. The composer treats the sublime utterance of the psalmist in a style calculated to bring out their spirit and place them in the most descriptive, and we might say dramatic, form. There is not the slightest pretence in the work: for simplicity itself seems to be its guiding motive. Yet there is more real merit in it than hundreds of the church pieces of a more ambitious nature that we have been compelled to wade through.

William Hall & Son publish the following:-"Italia Unita," or "Rome." Marche triumphale. Dedicated to Victor Emmanuel, and composed by Giu-seppe Operti, conductor of the Niblo's Garden orchestra. A fine, brilliant work, with an exuberance of martial spirit in it from beginning to end. The themes are all fresh and melodic and the treatment

ing manner. The same house has brought out the principal gems of Bristow's magnificent opera of "Rip Van Winkle." Three of these more sauz must needs be popular favorites, and are destined for the salon, concert, parior, ballroom and street. They are "The Mug of Beer," a relicking, irresistible brindist, and contagious in every measure; "The Sparkling Tears of the Vine," a song which we safely assert has no peer in its line in opera of any kind, and the exquisite melody, "Alone, All Alone, in this Wide World of Sorrow," the plaintive lament of Rip when he wakes up, visits the village of Falling Waters and finds that he is forgotten by all. The composer of this opera, George Bristow, is, we may say, the only great representative of music in America. His works, orchestral and vocal, are better known in Europe than they are here, yet they bear the stamp of true genius impressed upon them. He has proved himself a thorough musician, not only in opera, but oratorio, symphony, ballads and pious works. The name of George Bristow stands at present the first in American art, and we doubt very much if Europe can show his equal in music.

"Sur la Tombe de Gottschalk." Réverie. N. R. Espadero. A work which probably only the composer himself can give an intelligible idea of; for he overloads it with complex and detailed instructions and minute details on expression, style, color, use of pedals and directions of the metronome, and he says in the preface that "to forget all these recommendations would completely prevent the obtaining of the desired effect." The work is exceedingly gloomy and labored, and Mr. Espadero seems to think that monetony and dulness are indispensable adjuncts to the expression of grief in music. Melody, at all events, he carefully excludes. To prove the failacy of his opinion we need only point to the immorta Marche Funebre," of Chopin

Henry Litolff, New York, Paris, London, Brussels, St. Petersburg, Basie, Amsterdam and Copenhagen, publish the following:—

"Nocturnes pour Plane." John Field. This is one of the handsomest and most elegant editions of music we have ever seen. The works themselves, seventeen in number, are Mendelsschnian in their exquisite melody and grace, and are withal so simple as to be within the reach of every planist. "Denische Siegesmarche," consisting of "Woerth," by Wiedemann; "Saarbrücken," Partzsch;

"Metz," Blumenstengel, and "Sedan," Abt. They are all good pieces, brilliant and effective. "Variations," Beethoven. The entire twenty works of the great composer under this name, and

published in a very handsome form. "Suites," Handel. The sixteen works under the bove title, got up in an anexceptionable edition. "Rondos, Fantasias, Overture dans le style de Handel, Adagio, Marche, Valse Favorite, Gigue and Minuet Favori." Mozart. An exceedingly valuable

collection of the fugitive works of the composer of

collection of the fugitive works of the composer of the forward."

"Sixteen Marches," for four hands. Franz Schwoert. Another very fine edition of some of the true poet's happiest thoughts.

John L. Peters publishes the following:

"Kind and True" and "Left Alone." Two ballads. Dedicated to Miss Lotta, a very handsome portrait of whom adorns each title page, and composed by G. Operti. The former is an Irish song and has a simple melody, full of expression, and the second is harded gem.

simple melody, tuil of expression, and the second is a perfect gem.

"Triumph of Love," Vocal waltz. Operti, Dedicated to Misson and having on its title page a beautiful colored lithograph of the Swedish nightingale. It is in treatment of the Arditi school of vocal waltzes, and marked with a characteristic melodic beauty which places it, in our opinion, above the gittering generalities of the conductor of the Covent Garden Opera. The violin obligato forms a brilliant of the week part.

sarden Opera. The violation obligate forms a brilliant setting to the vocal part.

Schirmer, Broadway, publishes the following:—
"Las Ballerina." Mazurka elegante. Samuel Jackson. This composer has achieved in our review an enviable reputation as an arranger, for two performers on the piano, of popular works by other writers. In this the entire composition is his own.

an enviable reputation as an arranger, for two performers on the plane, of popular works by other writers. In this the entire composition is his own. It stamps him as a composer of genuine ability, for it poss essess merits which recommend it to any musician, and the additional pair of hands bring out its sailent points with effect.

"Hear My Cry." Anthem. Arranged from an offertory by Dr. Hauftmann by Robert Bonner. It is not a bad composition, but commonpiace in every sense of the word. An organist in looking over it will tell. The usual old-fashioned foods bring an old-fashioned melody, such as every choir is familiar with, to its proper ending. Any organist possessing the least pretensions in his business can improvise those things by the bushel full.

"On, Gently Sieep." Serenade. W. Taubert. One of those forced melodies that we decidedly object to. The composer attempts to gloss over its weakness by an accompaniment which is peculiar, but, at the same time, ineffective. Very often a great deal of time and mental labor are spent over these lines, and there is nothing for it.

"Pale et Blonde." Ballad, from Ambroise Thomas' "Hamlet." Why not give the entire scena, and thus complete the liefa in this representative morecan from this much discussed opera? Nilsson and Faure, by their transcendant talents, made this opera a success; but, intrinsically, it is a complete failure. It is a weak attempt to interpret, musically, one of the most abstrase and metaphysical works of Shakspeare. To take it plecemeal is, in our opinion, a very foolish and unprofitable piece of business.

"Worship of God in Nature," Bellad. F. Gumbert. A pretty good melody, not displeasing, but not particularly interesting.

"Dear Home of My Father." Ballad. F. Gumbert. A pretty good melody, not displeasing, but not particularly interesting.

"Blilliants from the Modern Opera" for four hands, albert Berg. These comprise five pieces from "L'Africaine," "Pericholes" (sublime to the ridiculous), "Grand Duchess," "Belle Helene" and "Faust" (Guo

"Mass in D." Alois F. Lejeal. We shall refer to "Mass in D." Alois F. Lejeal. We shall refer to this work again, as it comes at such a late hour that we have not time to review it critically.

Benjamin Hitchcock, of Beckman street, has made some important additions to his choice collection of Dime and Half Dime Music. This gentleman is the pioneer in the cheap music line, and by his constant perseverance in establishing a line of business which threatens to overwheim the close monopoly which has so long clogged American talent we are of opinion that he may be looked upon in the light of an iconoclast.

has so long clogged American talent we are of opinion that he may be looked upon in the light of an iconociast.

The same may be said of John Pattison & Co., Association Hall, who have inaugurated an entirely new system in dealing with composers. According to tae old regime American composers had no rights that publishers were obliged to respect, and, as they speak of amendments to the constitution of the United States, we would suggest a very important one, and that is that composers should be placed on the same level as other cluzens, and should be permitted to avail themselves of the rights comprised in this pithy sentence—"Whereas all men are created free and equal." The most shameless swindling has hitherto prevailed in their case, and the publishers have made money out of their (composers) brains, without even acknowledging the fact. A more unserupulous, mean-spirited class never existed in a community than some of our leading publishers. The new comers in the field have imangurated a revolution which we hope will be every way successful.

During the week ending December 10, 1870, the following transfers have been made:-Name.

Whole Dec. 5. \$5,000 Whole Dec. 7. 2,400 Whole Dec. 8. 127 Whole Dec. 8. 1,500 45 Dec. 9. 1,200 Whole Dec. 9. 1,200 Whole Dec. 9. 1,200 Whole Dec. 9. 1,700

LITERATURE.

Criticisms of New Books. LAY SERMONS, ADDRESSES AND REVIEWS. By Thomas Henry Huxley, LL.D., F. R. S. New York: D. Appleton & Co. If, even when presented in the dryest forms

agreeable study, how much more fascinating it must be when presented in all the charms of vigorous, animated writing. Not even the occasional coldlieves he will be charged with exhibiting can suffice to render the papers contained in this book repul sive to the reader. We may not said, speaking for ourselves, we cannot approve the ill-disguised sneers at the Bible as the composition of a semibarbarous Hebrew; neither are we at all satisfied that humanity will be elevated or made happier by the study of nature, in a form which precludes the possibility of a God. For we hold the opinion of some of the greatest of philosophers that man, though a part of nature, is her master; and, as we cannot conceive man a waif on creation, with neither guide nor mentor, we must perforce believe in a Supreme Being superior to man, and conse quently infinitely superior to nature. If we take Prolessor Huxley's article "On the Physical Basis of Life." by way of example, its perusal probably con vinces us that the basis of all life is to be found in protopiasm, simple or nucleated-that from a microscopic transparent egg containing a fluid, colorless man and beast and plant alike spring, and that there is no appreciable difference in the materials composing the Protein of man from that composing the Protein of beasts. But we object to the position assumed by Mr. Huxley that we must not aftempt to inquire beyond the material fact of such proto plasm or to speculate upon its origin. Now, it is certainly impossible to exaggerate the importance of possessing a knowledge of the "physical basis of life;" but it is also vastly more impossible to ex-aggerate the importance of obtaining, whether from temonstrable preof or from deduction, some sat factory idea concerning the source whence such physical basis is derived. Why shall we rest conent with a knowledge of the effect and not seek the cause?

It is not our purpose, however, to enter into any long argument against the materialism of the author's language. Viewing the work from a purely scientific standpoint, we unhesitatingly recognize its great value to science. There are few men living more fitted for the task of instructing us on the great facts of natural history than Professor Huxley, and we doubt if there be any who can impart such instruction in so thoroughly entertaining a style. We have read the book with the deepest interest. Some of the papers we had read before; others were new. But the old ones had lost nothing of their interest, and their perusal afforded as much

The essay "On the Advisableness of Improving Natural Knowledge," though written for the English people, applies with equal force to Americans. may, indeed, take the first six papers as embodying the most cogent reasons why our knowledge of natural history should be enlarged. The first has been referred to. The others are entitled, "Emancipation: Black and White," "A Liberal Education, and Where to Find It," "Scientific Education," "On the Educational Value of the Natural History Sciences" and "On the Study of Zoology." With some of the sentiments contained in these we do not agree. For example, the article on emancipation is not altogether satisfactory. Nevertheless, the central ideas which are apparent in this and in all the others are incontroveruble. Our system of education abounds in laults. Its defectiveness is demonstrated daily. In his address "On the Educa-tional Value of Natural History Sciences" Professor Huxley declared that he dared venture to assert that, although he was addressing an audience of educated persons, there was not one, with the exception of those who had received a medical educaact of breathing, or who could state, in precise terms, why it is that a confined atmosphere is injurious to health.

How many Americans are better educated than this audience of English persons? In what respects do our colleges and other institutions of learning differ from these of England? We do not exaggerate when we assert that three out of every four graduates of Yale and Harvard leave these colleges knowing very little more about the natural sciences than when they entered them. Not that they did not study zoology, betany and mineralogy, but that somehow they derived but little benefit from their studies of these sciences. And if the students of our principal colleges fail to acquire a correct knowledge of these important sciences, is it any wonder that the students of our ordinary schools are absolutely ignorant of even their fundamental princtples? Hence, if these papers were not, as they are. so admirably written that they can be read with all . the avidity with which a sentimental school girl reads a love novel, we would still recommend their perusal to all persons concerned in the education of youth.

none which does not contain a vast amount of scientific information. That "On the Physical Basis of Life" is, notwithstanding the objectionable features which have been already alleded to, a clear and concise explanation of a most important subject, and we trust that its facts can be accepted without, as Professor Huxley warned his hearers might be the case, their acceptance placing any person on the first step to the ladder that leads to the antipodes of heaven. "The Scientific Aspects of Positivism" is an admirable review of Comte's "new philosophy." 'On a Piece of Chalk," "Geological Contemporanelty and Persistent Types of Life" and "Geological Reform" are also excel ent. We are not prepared to go as far as Professor Huxley in defence of the Darwinian theory; hence we cannot alto-gether approve the views expressed by him in his review of "The Origin of Species" and in his review of the criticisms on that work. But his paper on Descartes and the one-with which the volume closes—on "Spontaneous Generation," are in all respects worthy of the highest praise.

We have said as much as our limited space will admit to show the value of these "Lay Sermons, Addresses and Reviews." The reputation of the anthor is of itself a sufficient guarantee of its scientific importance. We are sure that its perusal, whether by the few familiar with the natural sciences or by the many who have really nothing more than a vague idea of what the natural science are, will result in the acquirement of additional knowledge to the first, and not only afford information to the last, but prove an incentive to the study of natural history.

At the same time it would be best, perhaps, for the reader to reject Professor Huxley's theology, while thankfully accepting his scientific expositions. If we believed that science and religion were irreconcliable, and that faith in the one eventuated destruction of the other, we would prefer, for the peace and happiness of humanity, to reject science. But we have an abiding faith that in time to come, though it may not be for ages yet, some great mind will prove that the present antagonism was all owing to our own ignorance, and that the same mind enthrone science without dethrening God. Professor Huxley denies that he is a materialist; but if he is not he certainly cannot claim to be a believer in any known form of religion. Neither can we see in these "Lay Semons, Addresses and Reviews" any of that reverence for the Bible which is claimed for him by the writer for an American semi-religious weekly, who evidently never read the book he pretended to review.

JOURNALISTIC NOTES.

Black Hawk county, Iowa, has another paper, the La Porte City Progress, Just started by T. J. Metcaif.
T. J. Butler has retired from the editorial charge of the Elko (Nevada) Chronicle, giving place to W. B. Taylor.

B. Taylor.

The editor of the Glenn's Falls (N. Y.) Republican has just been elected Vice President of the Northern New York Ponitry Association.

C. H. Slocum, of the St. Charles (Minn.) Heraid, will be a candidate this winter for re-election to the position of Assistant Clerk of the House.

It is said that a new morning paper started in Chicago, to be devoted entire divorce and warehouse business, The Rev. Dr. Gardiner is about to resume editorial charge of the Brooklyn Catholic, which he reinquisited when ordered to Rome to attend the Council. He will make the paper an able organ of DRESS FASHIONS.

The Goddess of Style on Neutral Ground.

Aristocracy Exiled from Paris-The Congregation in Brussels-Laces, Velvets, Poplins, Silks and Cashmeres-The "Creation," or Make Up-Ideas Enlarged by Revolution-Materials, Colors and Trimmings-Hats, Flowers, Shoes and Slippers.

When the decrees of Paris milliners, dressmakers capital and all the notabilities of imperial satons ded to Belgium, it was supposed that Brassels would ome the centre of fashionable life abroad.

Truly, ambassadresses, princesses, the wives of marshals and generals did assemble in this gay httle city, in this miniature Paris, as the French themselves call it, but fashion was the last themselves call it, but fashion was the last thing they thought and talked of at their reunions. The war, the all-absorbing, cruel war; the sufferings of the army; the gradually dawning personnel that France would be crushed; the patural ception that France would be crushed; the natural anxiety of mothers, wives and daughters concerning their kindred; their premature mourning and tervent charities—all these things turned the current of their thoughts towards an unaccustomed channel, one very different from that in which they have too long slumbered. Too long, for there is in the worship of dress, its

petty contrivances and exact perfection, such an

afinity of detail that the mind which takes it all in must reject every other occupation. A woman who is always well dressed, whose toilet is always particularly well adapted to the place she is in, always fit for the hour of the day and circumstances in which she is seen, can be in all emergencies nothing but a well dressed woman. Consoling it is to be her daughters are not well dressed; that their at-tempts at toilet when made have been failures; that the high and true of this once fair land have thrown aside all eleg noies, and visit in sombre brown, olive green, black and gray, leaving unto their sisters in happy neutral lands all the costly velvets mixed with satin, all the minever and lace, all the stripes and faille, the heavy popilis, the glace silks and reversible retroused styles, the worked cash meres, the artistic gimp, the waving fringe and sortly colling Asiatic materials. These are the things which are still worn in every variation of platt made up with as much recherché as when there was no talk of battle fields and famishing armies and burned villages. In this crisis there is even neard a complaint that "people can't creat; new styles without Paris draughtsmen," and more, that "there is no reliable authority to go by." This is particularly augravating to those female minds which entertained the hope of taking that lead in society which the queens of style under the empire have deserted and abandoned. But why despair, disappointed beauties? The emblazoned chair of La Mode is still vacant though her courtly trains of beause four and better full as many candidates as was the throne of Spain a short time ago. Few among the ambitious are capacitated for wielding it. There lies the difficultry for it is an error to believe that royal dress constitutes a regal wearer. The weight of purse, combined with lightness of intellect, are not the fundamental elements required; and because the necessary attributes of such a ruler are infinite, and comprehend attainments of a very superior order, it has in the course of years become the work of a whole capital, not of one individual, to "set" and "lay down" the law of fashion. This capital riffest also beast of possessing academics, factories, schools and artists founded and mistracted for the special parpose of perfecting every industry connected with laws has been; but there is no concealing the ourned villages. In this crisis there is even heard a

and artists founded and instructed for the special purpose of perfecting every industry connected with the fashions.

It need not necessarily be Paris, because Paris it always has been; but there is no concealing the fact that since this war began even French refugees, whose business in the fashion line has been transierred to London, Brussels and Vienna, complain they can do nothing out of Paris. If these famed makers are argued with and ton that their takent must be still the same wherever key go, they strug their shoulders and reply, "Tout manager ica," which, in plain English, means "There is not a taking we can use here; we have not the same habits, nor taste, nor tast, if severed from that Paris atmosphere which is to us the same thing as water to a golf dsh."

The city of Brussels did not for one moment entertain the notion that she could even temporarily supplant Paris. She drew (to use a poetic simile) her veil of Brussels point around her and molestly looked about. She would have liked to do the homage of some novelly to one of her visitors, the Princess de Metterinch, but the reputed amonasadress sid her the honor of a novelty. She appeared he a recent soirce in a splendid black lace shawl, retroussed as a tunic, over a plum colored velvet train. To make the best of what could be had was the wise resolved Brussels after this, and the consequence is that the ideas Paris bousealled have been extended and improved. Paris bequeathed have been extended and improved. The browns have been beautified by a mixture of amber satin, slight, though very relieving. This amber, used as piping or liming to ruche, is very

Violet sating are made of the three shades which Violet satins are made of the three shades which distinguish Parma bunches of the retiring flower—a rosy manye faile, a darker gradiation of the same for bouilton and a deeper still for flounce. The fruit heading the bouilton and flounce are prevalent, too, as trimmings for velvet skirts.

Clany in the éeru shades is used as insertion and fruit on blue satin. This is very elegant on jackets made to match the skirts.

Berlin wool fringe is placed on woollen materials for demi-toilette preferably to slik or gamp, which are preferred for costly materials such as gros grain or poult.

or poult.

The very untily fringe worn on tartan costumes is going out of favor. The draggling sky-terrier effect cannot be denied. White tarrans are ornamented with black velvet and chemile.

Gimp of elaborate and aristic descriptions covers the most conspicuous part of those spiendid Antwerp black siks, shown as armore d'Anvers. Jackets are covered with gimp, winch from a distance is not unlike carved Gothic work, so perfectly does the design stand out, especially on velvet, blue or gainet.

Jackets are covered with glup, which from a distance is not unlike carvel Gothle work, so periocity does the design stand out, especially on velvet, blue or garnet.

Branding has again returned to perplex mantual makers. Some dashmere toilets are so admirably braided that the original material underneath is totally covered over.

Brussels has excelled in imgerie. The pretty snowy fichus, the ruffs, the puny muslin plisses, the cumning bosom drapery, the flounced white sleeves are edged and waved and made to appear of duller white by carious additions of a bit of black velvet here and there. Then Brussels thrus out white cashmere robes, trimmed with ruche, careed white crosscuts, and bordered with Soton work. As to taile, it is used for everything; the white is mixed with black and the black is mixed with white. Among these I must cite a black silk neck scarf, with a Valenclennes insertion, then an atternate stripe of black. The front square ends finishing with a deep white Valenclennes. It is tied on a light, loose bow and is prettier than pure white.

The making up of lingeric has attaitued the perfection of art in Brussels; and how necessary this branch is in the appearance of a well-dressed lady! A rich tonic without lasteful white discloses a very imperfect taste. Under Louis XIV. the ruff, the cour, the neath and the heod were thought the principal objects of dress.

Few flowers are made and few are worn. Plumes are the great features. They are employed in curing groups of three different shades of one color. The flesh or tibs piume with six-ery javenner are a lovely mixture. Hats are high crowned, either square or pointed. The trimming is put on at the back and made to come forward toward the sides. The fronts of hats should not be trimmed with anything but folded scar of creps, as tille or faile.

Fur stippers imitate little ferret, fox, easel and other heads. The tip of the foot is the nose unade of black and packets, having wide pagoda sieeves lined with and other heads. The tip of the foot is the nose

the new styles would cost to numerous charities which start up every day around us. A DIYORCE SUIT IN CONNECTICUT.

A DIVORCE SMIT IN CONNECTION.

In the divorce smit, Sweet vs. Sweet, new on trial at Norwich, Genn., the applicant for a separation is the venerable Dr. Stephen Sweet, the eminent and well-known bone-setter. The witnesses trues far examined are those only who appear for the petitioner. The testimony goes to show that the respondent is the doctor's fourth whie; that she has been married to him about ten years; that she threatened his life with knife and with poison; that she has neglected and demoralized his children; prevented their attending church and schoel; sent the youngest, who are girls, out in all weather, shabbly and thinly clad; used profane and vile language in their presence, and, as Mrs. Partington large wased spiritual liguors to success.